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OIP  
Exam Cowles

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No : 09/746,716  
Applicant : Grube et al.  
Filed : December 22, 2000  
TC/A.U : 2839  
Examiner : Neil Abrams

Confirmation No. 1179

Docket No. : 276440-11

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT**

To Whom It May Concern:

In response to the Office Action of July 15, 2005, the shortened statutory period for response to which has been extended to December 15, 2005 by the accompanying Petition For Extension Of Time, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 11 of this paper.